

REMARKS

The Office examined claims 1-8, 10-21, 25-29 and rejected same. With this paper, claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 11, 13 and 25-28 are amended, claims 2, 3 and 29 are canceled and none are added. The application now includes claims 1, 4-8, 10-17, 19-21 and 25-28.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC §103

The Office rejected the claims based on the following grounds:

- *Claims 1-4, 6-7, 17 and 25-29 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pavet (U.S. Patent No. 6,229,994, Pavet hereinafter) in view of Nilsson (U.S. Patent No. 6,400,967, Nilsson hereinafter).*
- *Claims 5, 8, 11-16, and 18-21 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pavet in view of Nilsson and further in view of Kubo (U.S. Patent No. 6,580,923).*

With this paper, claim 1 is amended to incorporate the limitations in claims 2 and 3. The amended claim 1 recites a housing for a mobile telecommunication device. The housing comprises a unitary body having a front face and a rear face, and a closing member. The body has an open end for insertion of electronic components of the device therein, a plurality of apertures in the front face for receiving keys of a keymat mounted on an inner wall of the body, and an opening in the rear face opposite the apertures for receiving a battery pack. At least one of the electronic components is mounted on the member, and the member closes the open end of the body when the electronic component mounted on the member is inserted into the body. Upon insertion of the electronic components, the unitary body substantially houses the electronic components.

The primary reference, Pavet, is different from the present invention in that the body for housing the electronic components of the mobile phone handset is not unitary. It comprises at least a front half 22 and a back half 24 (see Fig. 2 of Pavet) and the electronic components are not inserted into the body. The Office acknowledged these differences

between Pavet and the present invention, and nevertheless cited the secondary reference, Nilsson, for teaching a housing comprising a unitary tubular body having an open end for inserting electronic components. "Therefore," the Office asserts, "it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Nilsson into view of Pavet in order to make the cellular phone in the form of small and inexpensive as suggested by Nilsson at column 2, lines 23-26." (Office action, Page 4, first paragraph)

In response to the rejection, Applicant amended claim 1 to further distinguish the present invention with the cited prior art. According to the amended claim 1, the mobile telecommunication device housing of the present invention includes a unitary body and a closing member. The unitary body has a front face and the rear face, so it is not in a cylindrical shape as the tubular housing section 3 in Nilsson. At least one of the electronic components of the device is mounted on the closing member. When the electronic component mounted on the closing member is inserted into the unitary body through an open end of the body, the closing member closes the open end so that the electronic components of the device are substantially housed by the unitary body.

Comparing claim 1 with Figs. 2 and 3 of Nilsson, it is clear that Nilsson does not teach a closing member as in claim 1. Nilsson merely discloses a removable cap 4 that seals and closes the open end of the tubular housing section 3 (col. 5, lines 33-34). This cap 4 is nowhere disclosed as having support for mounting electronic components thereon. The electronic package 40, as mentioned on page 4, lines 7-9 of the Office Action regarding claim 3, is inserted deep into the tubular housing 3 and is clearly not supported by the removable cap 4. Note that in the present invention, at least one electronic component is mounted on the closing member and this component is inserted into the unitary body. If the closing member is removed, the electronic component mounted thereon is also removed. Evidently, in Nilsson, the electronic package 40 is not removed with the removal of the cap 4, and Nilsson never intended to make the electronic package 40 removable.

Based on the foregoing, Pavet and Nilsson, whether alone or in combination, do not teach all the limitations of the amended claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 is patentable in view of these two references.


Independent claims 25 and 28 are also amended to be consistent with amended claim 1. Claims 4-8, 10-17 and 19-21 depend from claim 1. Claims 26 and 27 depend from claim 25. Therefore, these claims are patentable as well. Applicant respectfully requests the rejections of all pending claims of the instant application under USC §103(a) be withdrawn.

Conclusions

For all the foregoing reasons it is believed that all of the claims of the application are now in condition for allowance, and their passage to issue is earnestly solicited. Applicant's agent urges the Examiner to call to discuss the present response if there are any questions.

Date: Oct. 24, 2007

Respectfully submitted,



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